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NEWS CONFERENCE

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH REX GRANUM

AT 3:10 P.M. EST

MARCH 7, 1977

MONDAY

MR. GRANUM: I will preface again by saying this is not necessarily a complete report of the whole Cabinet meeting.

All the Cabinet members were there. They met from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The meeting was moved up because of Mr. Rabin's arrival. They switched the format in this particular Cabinet meeting. Previously, the President spoke first and then had gone to each Cabinet member. This time he went to each Cabinet member and then he finished out the meeting with his comments.

Secretary Brown said that the Defense Department as a normal course of action is reviewing the process by which they determine how their wages are comparable to the wages in similar industries. They have done this, of course, for a number of years, where they try to pay a comparable rate to their employees as if they were, in fact, in a different industry.

Q What is a similar industry to the Army or the Navy?

MR. GRANUM: That is a good question. They obviously have long-established standards to try to determine what particular jobs would bring in another industry. Within the Army, there would be many functions, support functions, which would be comparable to industry level.

Q Is this for military?

MR. GRANUM: This is just for civilian pay. Referring to the Government as a whole, the President made a comment